

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-07

TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10 L-03 /077 W

----- 099449

R 061400Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6117

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMTM DHAHRAN

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2176

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, YE, US

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO PRESS REPORTS OF US ARMS SALES TO
YEMEN

1. VOA ACCOUNTS OF AUGUST 4 STATEMENT DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN
THAT USG PREPARKD TO SELL APPROPRIATE MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO YAR
HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN PICKED UP BY LOCAL PRESS OR RADIO AND LOCAL
REACTION IS THREFORE MUTED. FIRST REAL MENTION OF MATTER CAME
TODAY WHEN I MET CHIEF OF STAFF GHASHMI AT AIRPORT WHERE WE
ALL CONVOKED TO MEET PRIMIN ON HIS RETURN FROM SAUDI ARABIA.

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2. GHASHMI QUESTIONED ME TODAY ABOUT WHETHER, AS SPOKESMAN

ANNOUNCED, NO RPOANOT AIRCRAFT WERE BEING CONSIDERED AS PART OF DEAL. GHASHMI SAID SIMPLY THAT THE DEAL HAD TO INCLUDE AIRCRAFT. I SAID ONLY THAT TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NOTHING HAS BEEN CONCLUDED AND CONTENTS OF ANY PACKAGE TO BE DISCUSSED IN JIDDA.

3. GHASHMI SEEMED PUZZLED ABOUT THE REASON FOR DEPARTMENT STATEMENT. I POINTED TO HOAGLAND ARTICLE, IN WHICH HAMDI APPARENTLY TOLD HAOGLAND THAT DEAL WAS IN THE OFFING. GHASHMI SAID HAMDI SAID NO RPT NO SUCH THING.

3. COMMENT: THE QUOTES IN THE HOAGLAND ARTICLE DO NOT RPT NOT SHOW HAMDI SAYING DIRECTLY THAT DEAL IS ABOUT TO BE CONCLUDED. HOAGLAND HAD ANOTHER SOURCE FOR THIS, AND REFUSED TO TELL ME WHO IT WAS. IN ANY CASE, GHASHMI IS PROBABLY A LITTLE DISCONCERTED THAT HOAGLAND STORY AND DEPARTMENT STATEMENT CAME JUST AS YAR MINISTERIAL DELEGATION ARRIVED IN SAUDI ARABIA. YEMENIS DO NOT RPT NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO BE PUTTING PUBLIC PRESSURE ON SAUDIS, AND THIS COULD ACCOUNT FOR MUTE PUBLIC POSTURE OF YARG. CLEARLY, HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT BOTHER GHASHMI AS MUCH AS POSSIBILITY THAT YAR MAY HAVE TURNED DOWN MIG-21 DEAL AND YET HAVE NO RPT NO PROSPECT OF EQUIVALENT PLANE FROM WESTERN SOURCES.
RANSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, ARMS, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANA02176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750271-0776
From: SANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750877/aaaacqap.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL REACTION TO PRESS REPORTS OF US ARMS SALES TO YEMEN
TAGS: MASS, YE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006